

In the Claims:

AS <sup>Sub B1</sup> 6. A method in accordance with Claim 5, wherein said at least one treatment chemistry is disposed along a peripheral region of said absorbent layer.

Cancel Claim 7 in its entirety.

AM <sup>Sub B1</sup> 12. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said absorbent article comprises a nonwoven web material selected from the group consisting of airlaid, coform, spunbond, meltblown, bonded carded web, non-bonded pulp, bonded pulp, fibrous webs and combinations thereof.

AS <sup>Sub B1</sup> 27. In an absorbent article comprising an absorbent layer having a first surface and a second surface, a fluid permeable cover disposed adjacent said first surface, a fluid impervious baffle disposed adjacent said second surface, the improvement comprising:

at least one treatment chemistry selected from the group consisting of cross-linking gelling agents, thickening agents, agglutinating agents, plasma precipitators, mucolytic agent, lysing agents and combinations thereof disposed at least one of on and within at least a portion of at least one of said fluid permeable

~~AS~~ cover, said absorbent layer and said fluid impervious baffle.

Please add the following new claims:

~~Sub B1~~ 44. A method in accordance with Claim 6, wherein said at least one treatment chemistry is applied to at least one of opposed edges, opposed ends and a center region of said absorbent layer.

45. A method in accordance with Claim 5, wherein said absorbent article comprises at least two opposed side wings to which said at least one treatment agent is applied.

AC 46. An absorbent article in accordance with Claim 27, wherein said at least one treatment chemistry is disposed on at least a portion of one of said fluid permeable cover and said fluid impervious baffle.

47. An absorbent article in accordance with Claim 27, wherein said at least one treatment chemistry is disposed on at least one of a peripheral region and a center region of said absorbent layer.

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48. An absorbent article in accordance with Claim 47, wherein said peripheral region comprises opposed edges and opposed ends of said absorbent layer.

49. An absorbent article in accordance with Claim 27 further comprising opposed side wings to which said at least one treatment chemistry is applied.

50. An absorbent article in accordance with Claim 49, wherein said at least one treatment chemistry is one of said cross-linking gelling agent and said thickening agent.

The additional fee for the addition of claims to the subject application is enclosed herewith.

#### REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of the above Preliminary Amendment so as to more clearly recite the invention claimed by Applicants as well as more clearly describe the invention claimed by Applicants.

Applicants have amended the description of the invention claimed in the